
Vincenzo J. Olivett

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[Personal Website](#)

EDUCATION

Florida State University **Anticipated Summer 2026**

Ph.D., Social Psychology

Master's Thesis: *Implicit Threat Evaluations and Physiological Responses to Police*

Advisor: David S. March, Ph.D.

Lafayette College **2020**

B. S. in Neuroscience

Honors Thesis: *Threat Processing and Implicit Evaluation of Police Officers*

Advisor: Luis Schettino, Ph.D.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Mark & Gloria Charness Cognitive Science Award (\$1,000) **2025**

Award by the Florida State University Psychology Department

Wasik Graduate Student Travel Award (\$225) **2024, 2025**

Travel grant awarded by the Florida State University Psychology Department, Social Area

Best Social Area Poster Presentation (\$100) **2024**

Awarded by the Florida State University Psychology Department, Graduate Research Day

Graduate Student Paper Award (\$300) **2024**

Awarded by the Florida State University Psychology Department, Social Area

Summer Institute for Social and Personality Psychology (SISPP) **2023**

Recognition of significant research contribution in social and personality psychology

Master's in Four Competition – 1st Place (\$1,000) **2022**

Florida State University-wide competition for communicating research to broad audiences

Graduate Travel Award (\$500) **2022**

Travel grant awarded by Society for Personality and Social Psychology for conference travel

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship – Honorable Mention **2021**

Recognition for academic and research excellence

SPSP Graduate Student Poster Award (\$100) **2021**

Awarded at the annual conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology

Increasing Scientific Knowledge Related to Diversity Award (\$100) **2021**

Awarded by the Florida State University Psychology Department, Graduate Research Day

Best Social Area Data Blitz (\$100) **2021**

Awarded by the Florida State University Psychology Department, Graduate Research Day

Jack Brigham Graduate Student Research Award (\$500) **2021**

Awarded by the Florida State University Psychology Department, Social Area

Watson Fellowship (\$500) **2020**

Awarded by the Florida State University Graduate School

William C. Rappolt '67 & Walter Oechsle '57 Neuroscience Prize (\$1,000) **2020**

Awarded by Lafayette College for excellence in the neuroscience major

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Olivett, V. J., *Stults, M., & March, D. S. (in press). The Downward Spiral: Automatic Police-Threat Associations and Perceptions of Aggression During Arrests are Mutually Reinforcing. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

* **Undergraduate mentee**

March, D. S., Lesick, T., **Olivett, V. J.,** & Maranges, H. M. (2025). View from the right: Conservatism moderates the association between Black and threat. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*.

Olivett, V. J. & March, D. S. (2024). The civilian's dilemma: Civilians exhibit automatic defensive responses to the police. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 126(5), 841—851.

March, D. S., Hasty, C., & **Olivett, V. J.** (2024). The threat sensitivity scale: A brief self-report measure of dispositional sensitivity toward perceiving threats to physical harm. *Scientific Reports*, 14(1), 11304.

Olivett, V. J., Maranges, H. M., & March D. S. (2023). The unique roles of threat perception and misinformation accuracy judgments in the relationship between political orientation and COVID-19 health behaviors. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 53(4), 508—518.

Olivett, V. J. & March, D. S. (2021). White civilians' implicit danger evaluation of police officers underlies explicit perception of police. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, 6(1), 81.

UNDER REVIEW & INVITED REVISIONS

Olivett, V. J. & March, D. S. (submitted). Physical Threat Bias is a Core Psychological Foundation of Authoritarian Attitudes. Submitted to *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

Olivett, V. J. & March, D. S. (under review). Left, Right, and Ready to Fight: Physical Threat Perception Drives Aggressive Political Attitudes Across the Ideological Spectrum. Under review at *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*.

IN PREPARATION (Manuscripts Available Upon Request)

Olivett, V. J., Hasty, C. R., Maner, J. K., & March, D. S. (in prep). Some see Jekyll, others see Hyde: Political ideology and sensitivity to interpersonal physical threat. *Manuscript under revision for submission*.

Olivett, V. J. & March, D. S. (in prep). Friend or Foe: Examining Political Outparty Exemplar Representations Underlying Partisan Animosity. *Final stages of manuscript preparation*.

Olivett, V. J., *Gresham, A. M., Peters, B. J., & March, D. S. (in prep). Automatic Partner-Threat Associations Predict Violent Relationship Experiences and Intentions to Leave Violent Relationships. *Final stages of manuscript preparation*. * **Shared first authorship**

Gresham, A. M., Peters, B. J., Nincehelter, S. D., **Olivett, V. J.**, Lang, J. C., Satarri, P., & March, D. S. (in prep). Intimate partner violence victimization and responsiveness: Examining the moderating role of cognitive reappraisal. *Final stages of manuscript preparation.*

GRANTS AND FUNDING

AWARDED

Seed Grant from the Council on Research & Creativity, FSU **Jan 2024-Dec 2024**

Clarifying the Role of Threat Sensitivity and Perception in Aggressive Political Attitudes

Role: Co-I (PI: March, D. S.)

Total award \$62,941.

Grants-in-Aid Program, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues **Jan 2024-Jan 2025**

Exploring the implications of automatic partner attitudes and cognitive reappraisal for relationship maintenance intentions in violent intimate relationships

Role: Co-PI (Co-PI: Gresham, A. M.)

Total award: \$1,000

Inside the Grant Panel, Society for Personality and Social Psychology **Feb 2022-Jul 2023**

The Civilian's Dilemma: Physiological and Behavioral Implications for Threat Evaluations of the Police

Role: PI

Total award: \$1,000

PENDING

REJECTED

Visionary Grants, American Psychological Foundation

Testing the causal implications of automatic partner attitudes and cognitive reappraisal for relationship maintenance intentions in violent intimate relationships

Role: Co-PI (Co-PI: Gresham, A. M.)

Total Requested: \$18,267

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2025). *Physical threat motivates aggressive political attitudes across the political spectrum.* (Symposium: Advances in the threat-politics association across the political spectrum, Chair: Losee, J.). Symposium talk presented at the 2025 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2025).** *The civilian's dilemma: Examining the presence, antecedents, and behavioral implications of a police-threat association.* Single presenter talk presented at the Advancing Police-Community Research in Personality & Social Psychology Pre-conference of the 2025 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2024).** *The civilian's dilemma: Civilians exhibit automatic defensive responses to the police.* (Symposium: Intergroup disparities and biased judgment, perception, and physiological response, Chair: Krosch, A. R.). Single presenter talk presented at the 2024 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2024).** *Some see Jekyll, others see Hyde: Exploring the relationship between political ideology and perceiving threat from other humans.* Data Blitz presented at the Political Psychology Pre-conference of the 2024 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- Olivett, V. J. (2024).** *The civilian's dilemma: Examining threat evaluations and defensive responding to police officers.* Virtual Talk presented at the Lafayette Alumni Research Network 20th Anniversary Celebration, Easton, PA.
- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2023).** *The civilian's dilemma: Defensive bodily and behavioral responses to police.* Paper talk presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Olivett, V. J. (2023).** *Who likes scary stuff and why?* Talk presented at the October meeting of the Florida State University Psychology Club.
- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2022).** *Dark consequences: The role of ideological extremity and threat sensitivity in shaping aggressive political sentiments.* Virtual talk presented to the Maranges Research Lab at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.
- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2022).** *Implicit threat evaluations and defensive physiological responses to police.* Talk presented at the Florida State University Psychology Department Graduate Research Day, Tallahassee, FL.
- Olivett, V. J. & March D. S. (2021).** *Civilians' implicit threat evaluation of police officers underlies explicit perception of police.* Data Byte presented at the 2021 Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists Annual Convention, Virtual.

CONFERENCE POSTERS

- Oefelein, P., **Olivett, V. J.**, & March, D. S. (accepted). *Physical threat sensitivity is a psychological core of authoritarian attitudes across the left-right spectrum.* To be presented at the 2025 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

- Gresham, A. M., Peters, B. J., Nincehler, S. D., **Olivett, V. J.**, Lang, J. C., Sattari, P., March, D. S. (accepted). *Intimate Partner Violence Victimization and Responsiveness: Examining the Moderating Role of Cognitive Reappraisal*. Poster presentation at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Close Relationships Pre-Conference- Denver, CO, US.
- Olivett V. J.**, Gresham, A. M., Peters, B. J., & March, D. S. (2024) *Examining automatic partner attitudes in violent intimate relationships*. Presented at the Florida State University Psychology Department Graduate Research Day, Tallahassee, FL.
- *Stults, M., **Olivett, V. J.**, & March D. S. (2024). *Exploring new outcomes of implicit police-danger attitudes*. Presented at the 2024 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- Olivett, V. J.** & March D. S. (2023). *Civilians evince heightened defensive physiological responses to police*. Presented at the 2023 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA.
- *Guterman, J., **Olivett, V. J.**, March, D. S. (2023). *Implications of implicit associations for affective polarization and anti-democratic sentiments*. Presented at the 2023 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA.
- *Savoy, L., *Guterman, J., **Olivett, V. J.**, March, D. S. (2023). *Why do we fall for clickbait? The relationship between anger, cognition, and susceptibility to misinformation*. Presented at the 2023 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA.
- Olivett, V. J.** & March D. S. (2022). *Physiological implications of police-threat evaluations*. Presented at the 2022 Society for Affective Science Annual Convention, Virtual.
- Olivett, V. J.** & March D. S. (2022). *Civilians' implicit threat evaluation of police officers underlies explicit perception of police*. Presented at the 2022 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Olivett V. J.** & March, D. S. (2021) *White civilians' implicit danger evaluations of police officers underlies explicit perception of police*. Presented at the Florida State University Psychology Department Graduate Research Day, Tallahassee, FL.
- Olivett, V. J.**, Schettino, L., March, D.S. (2021). *Civilians' implicit evaluations of the police*. Presented at the 2021 Society of Personality and Social Psychology Virtual Annual Convention.
- Olivett, V. J.**, Schettino, L., March, D.S. (2020). *Civilians' implicit evaluations of the police*. Presented at the 2020 Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists Virtual Annual Convention.
- Olivett, V. J.**, Graner, J., & LaBar, K. (2019). *Functional influence of brain regions in emotion networks*. Presented at the Fall Student Research Poster Session at Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

Olivett, V. J. & Schettino, L. (2019). *Physiological responses to law enforcement primes*. Presented at the Spring Student Research Poster Session at Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

* Undergraduate mentee

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student

2020 – Present

The March Lab

Florida State University

PI: David S. March, Ph.D.

Research Assistant

Summer 2019

Center for Cognitive Neuroscience

Duke University

PI: Kevin LaBar, Ph.D.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

COURSES

Instructor of Record

Fall 2023 – Present

Social Psychology

Florida State University, Department of Psychology

Instructor

Fall 2021 – Spring 2023

Physiological Psychology Laboratory

Florida State University, Department of Psychology

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

Social Psychology

Florida State University, Department of Psychology

MENTEES

Freya Sykes, FSU Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program scholar

Maddie Stultz, undergraduate honors thesis student, APA SUPER Scholar

Sara Bouhamid, undergraduate honors thesis student

Jamie Heichelbech, undergraduate honors thesis student

Rachel Strickland, FSU Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program scholar

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

2020-present

Society for Southeastern Social Psychologists (SSSP)

2020-present

Society for Affective Science

2022-present

QUANTITATIVE TRAINING & SKILLS

- Analyses – Descriptives, t-tests, regression, ANOVA, mixed effects (multilevel) modeling, mediation analyses, structural equation modeling
- Software – SAS, R, MatLab, SPSS, SPM fMRI
- Training in fMRI data acquisition and analysis

REFERENCES

David S. March, Ph.D.

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Heather M. Maranges, Ph.D.

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